



# Evaluating Resource Management Strategies For the California Water Plan



*Update 2013  
California Water Plan*

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# Acknowledgements

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FLOODS



DECLINING ECOSYSTEMS

# Managing an Uncertain Future

Risk, Uncertainty, and Sustainability



DROUGHT



ENERGY  
CRISIS

# Water Policy Questions Addressing a Changing Climate

- 💧 What is the range of potential future climate between now and 2050? What are the ranges of other key uncertainties (demographics, land-use) over the same time period.
- 💧 How does a changing climate effect policy outcomes? To what climate conditions is the system vulnerable?
- 💧 How can different water management strategies and response packages increase resilience to changing climate?



What are the key tradeoffs among different strategies?

# Plan of Study Components

Uncertain Factors (X) and Scenarios	Management Strategies (L) and Response Packages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Employment</li> <li>• Housing density</li> </ul>	<p>Current Management</p> <p>Additional strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural water use efficiency</li> <li>• Urban water use efficiency</li> <li>• New surface storage</li> <li>• Conjunctive management &amp; groundwater storage</li> <li>• Recycled municipal water</li> <li>• Meeting additional flow targets and groundwater recovery goals</li> </ul>
Models (R)	Performance Metrics (M)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UPLAN</li> <li>• SWAP</li> <li>• Statewide Model</li> <li>• Central Valley Model</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban Supply Reliability</li> <li>• Agricultural Supply Reliability</li> <li>• Reliability of instream flow requirements and targets</li> <li>• Groundwater levels</li> </ul>





# System is Evaluated Against an Ensemble of Future Climate Scenarios

- 💧 Repeat of historical climate patterns
- 💧 Historical climate patterns with intensified drought
- 💧 Historical climate patterns with increasing temperature trend
- 💧 Downscaled global climate models



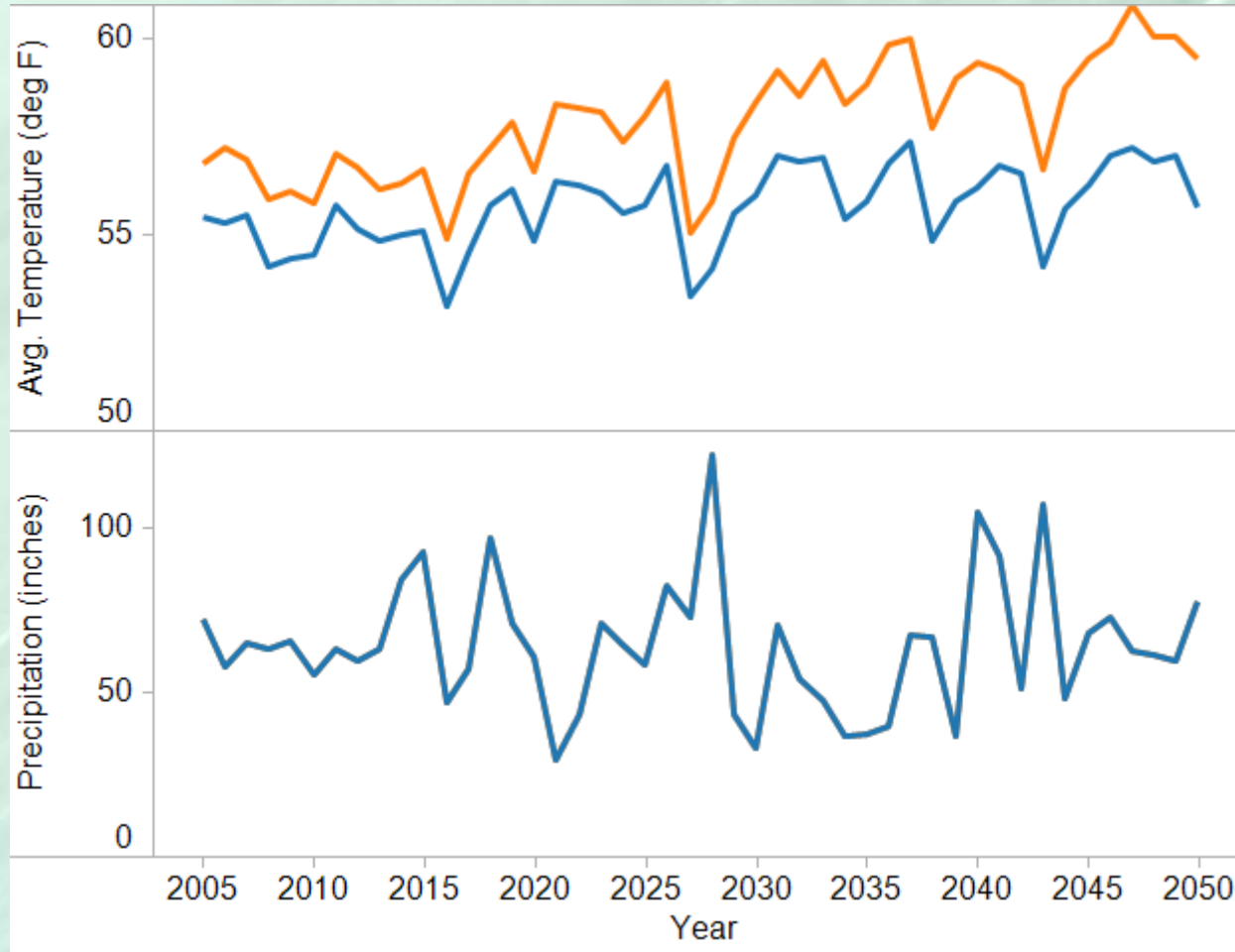
# Five Offsets of Historical Climate Build Understanding of Vulnerability to Timing Of Droughts



5 offsets  
evaluated



# Overlaying Temperature Trend Isolates Effects of Warming Climate

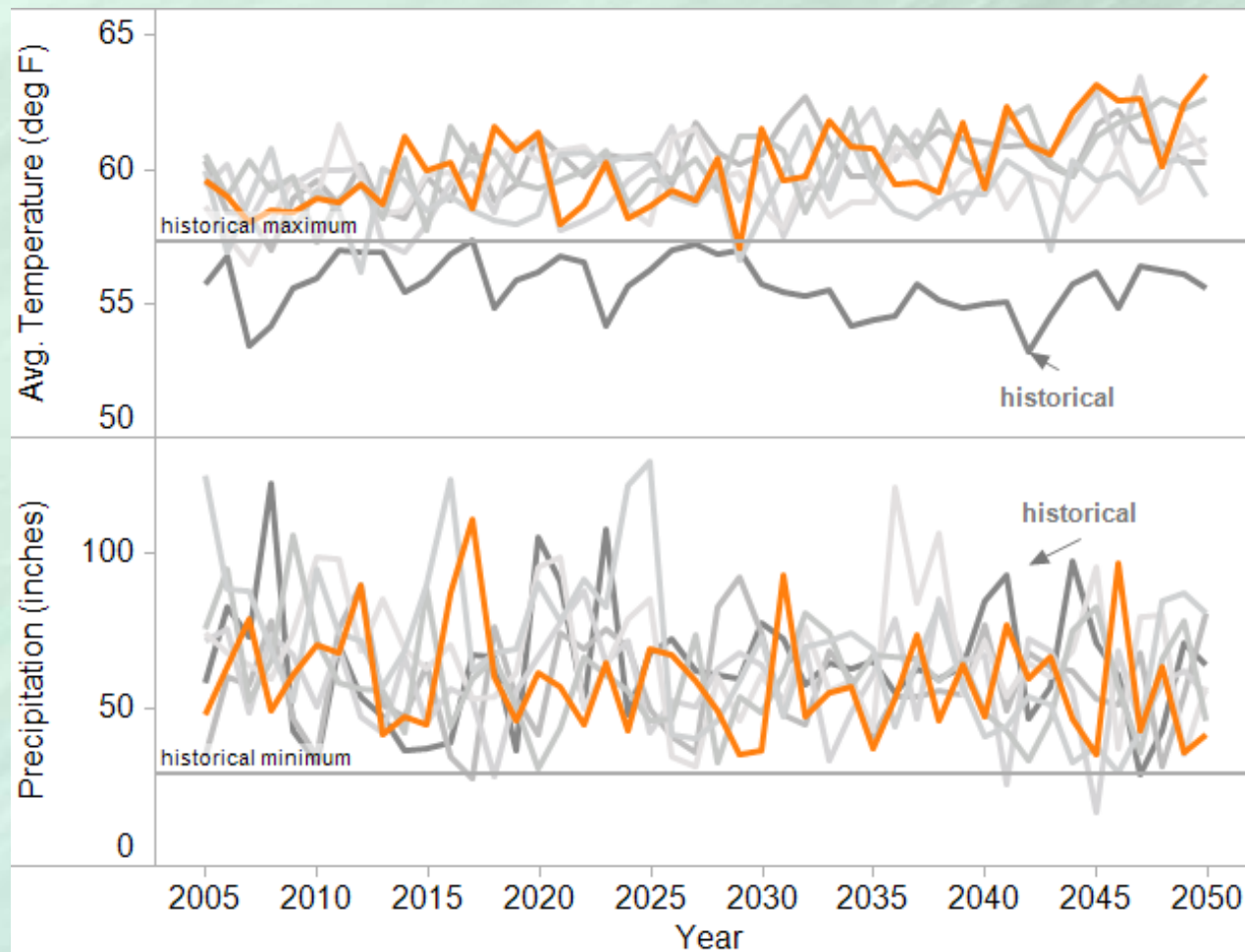


Average  
Warming by  
12 climate  
models





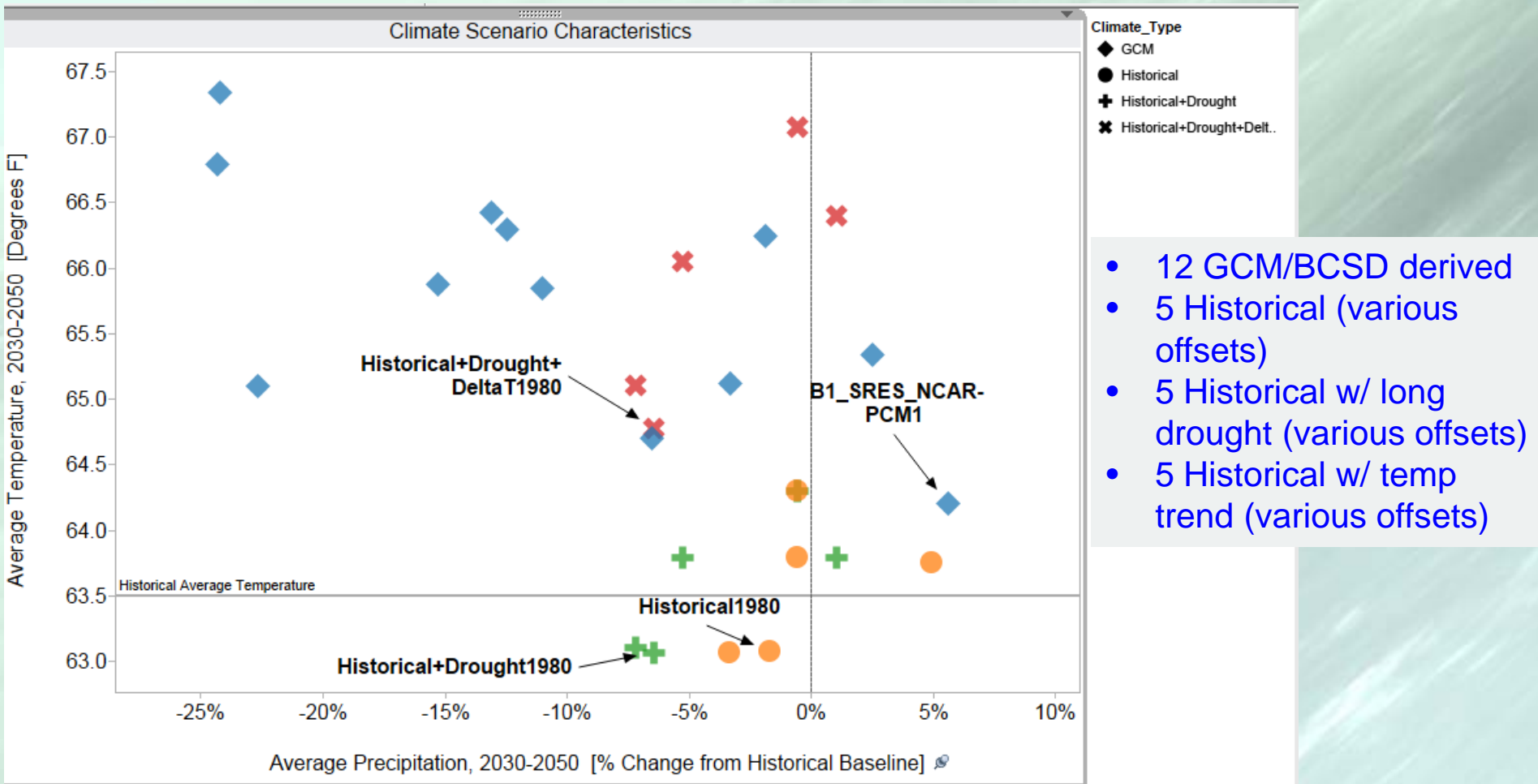
# Downscaled Climate Simulations Reflect Uncertainty in Future Climate Forecasts



Showing  
projections  
from 6 of 12  
climate  
simulations



# Ensemble of Climate Scenarios Represents Wide Range of Potential Futures



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# Water Management Models Evaluate System Across Many Scenarios

## Statewide Model

- 💧 Statewide
- 💧 Evaluation of monthly water demands by hydrologic region
- 💧 Reflect demographic and climate uncertainty

## Central Valley Model

- 💧 Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Tulare Lake hydrologic regions
- 💧 Simulation of monthly demand, supplies, and management under uncertainty
- 💧 Evaluation of water management strategies

Both models built in user-friendly modeling environment to support collaboration





# Central Valley Model Estimates Future System Performance



## Urban unmet demand

- Reliability
- Magnitudes of shortages



## Agricultural unmet demand

- Reliability
- Magnitudes of shortages



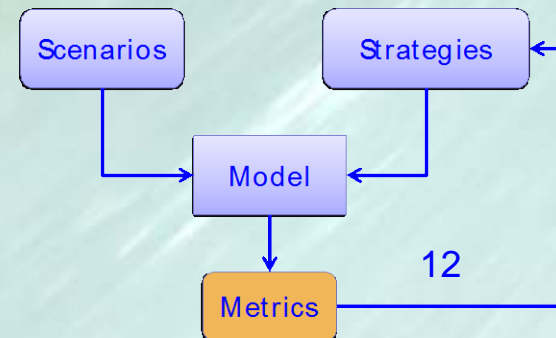
## Environmental performance

- Reliability of meeting In-stream Flow Requirements



## Groundwater storage

- Change over time



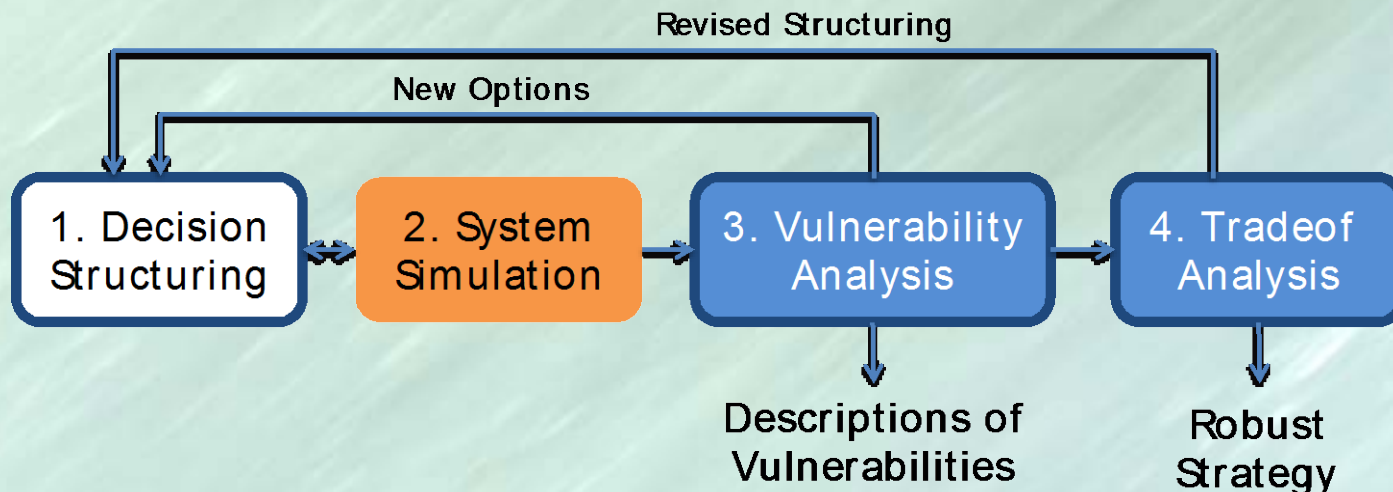
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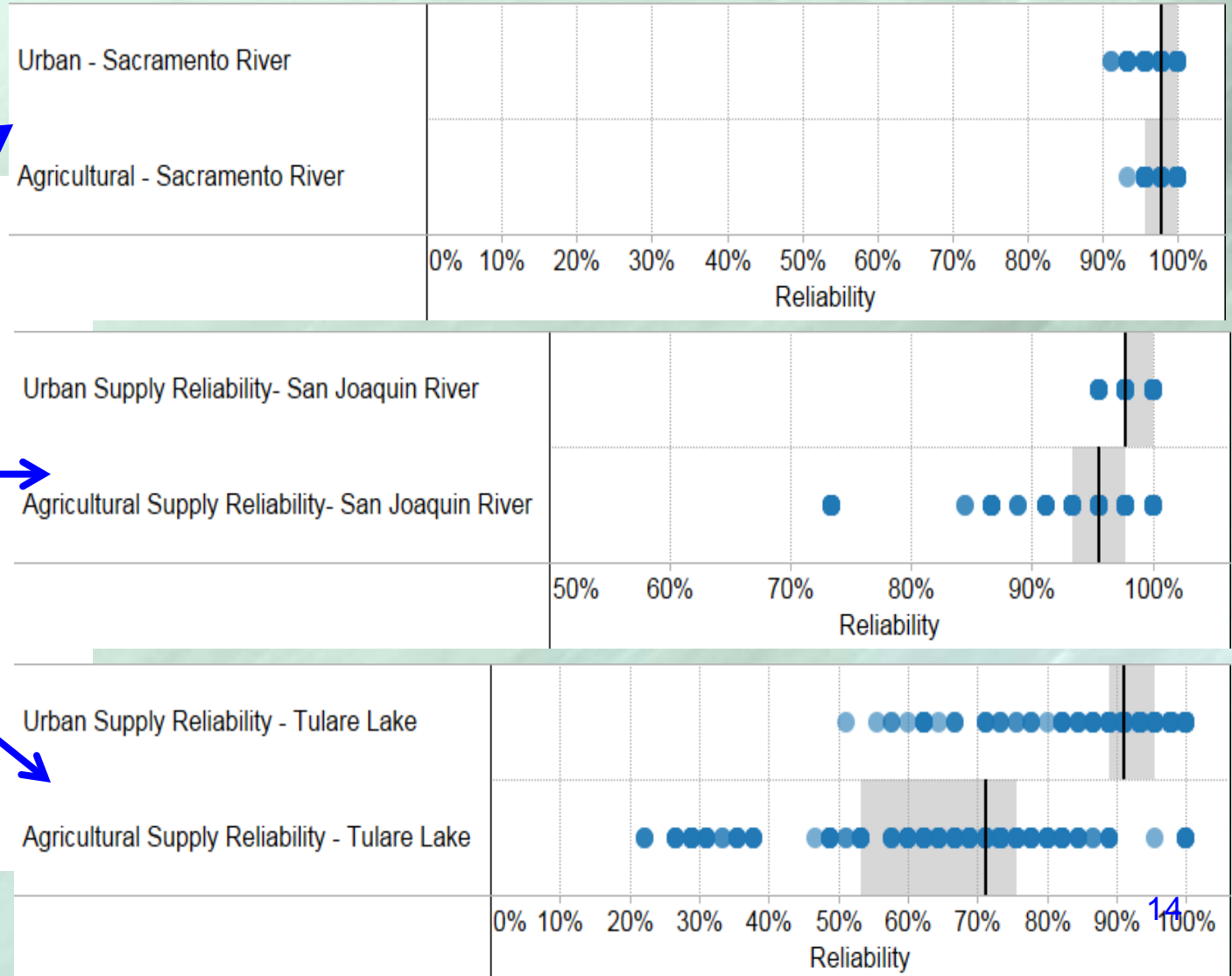


# Current Management System Evaluated Under Many Plausible Futures

Growth Scenarios		Climate Scenarios		Total Futures
3 population	X	5 Historical ISM	=	243
		5 Historical Drought		
3 urban densities		5 Historical Drought + Steady Warming		
		12 Downscaled Climate Model		

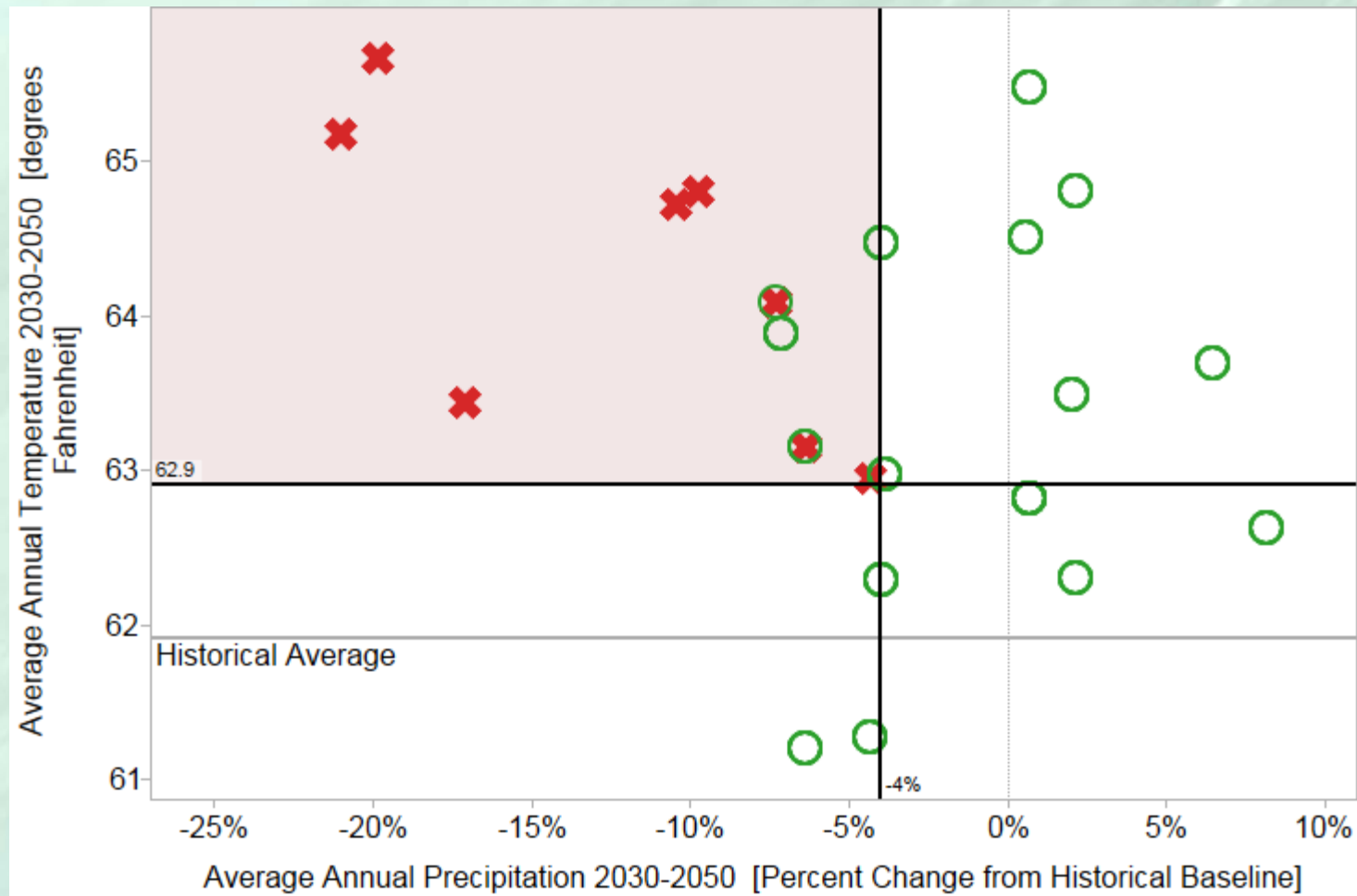


# Range of Supply Reliability Under Current Management Varies Across Future Climate Conditions





# Agricultural Reliability in San Joaquin HR Vulnerable to Warming and Drying Future Conditions

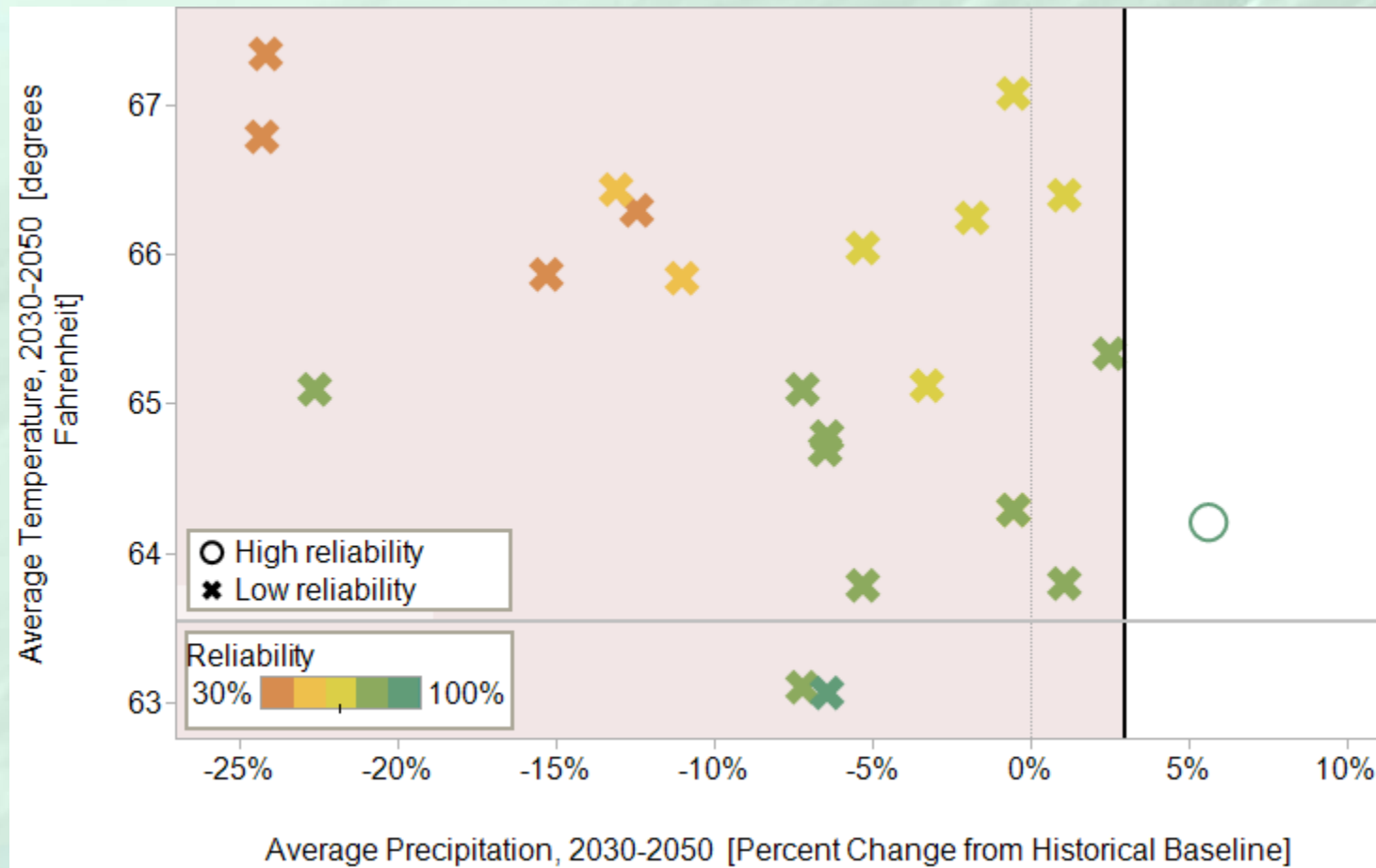


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# Agricultural Reliability in Tulare Lake HR Vulnerable to All But Wettest Climate Scenario



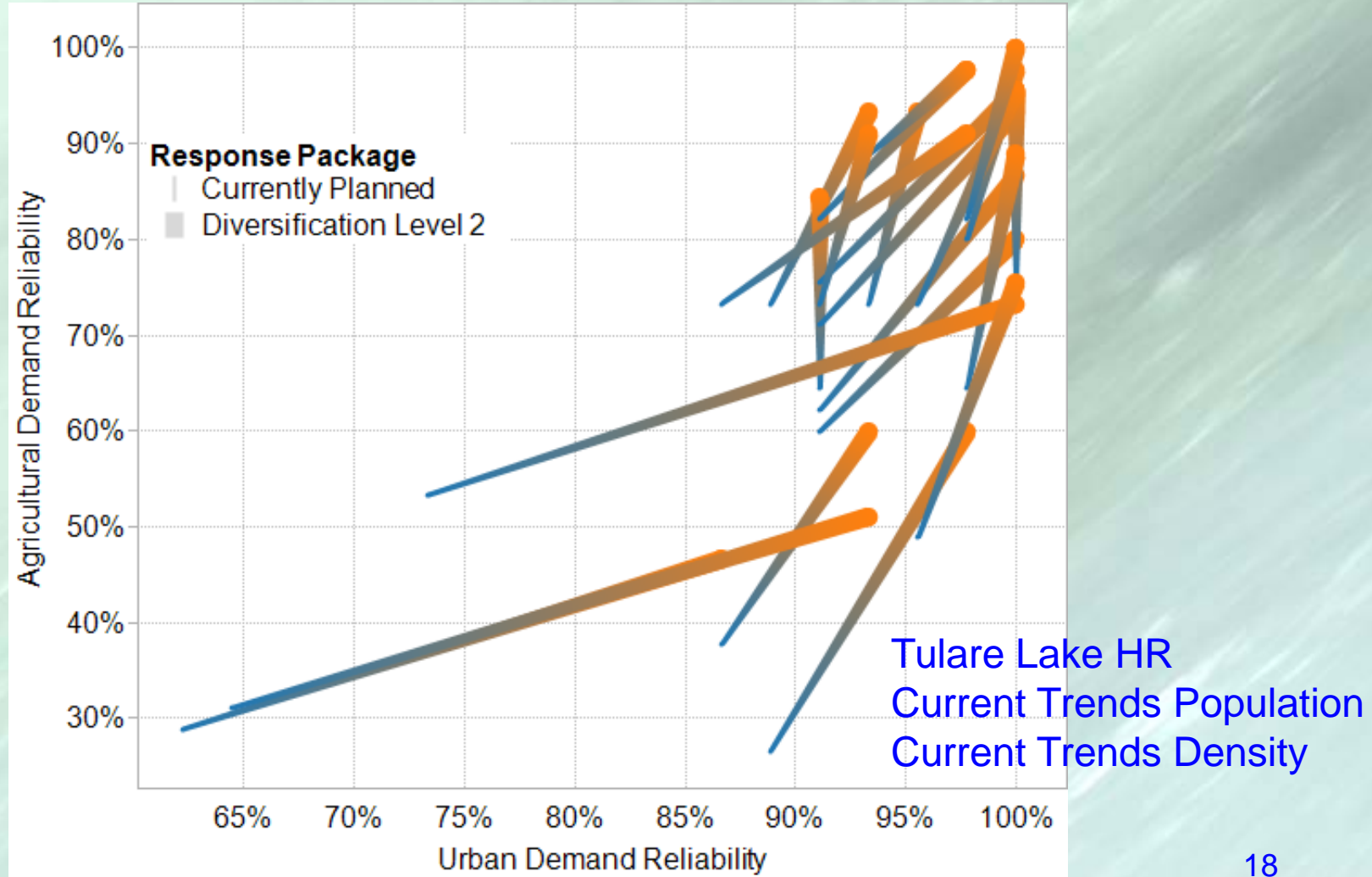
# Key Results from Vulnerability Analysis

- 💧 Sacramento River hydrologic region generally resilient to range of climate futures
- 💧 The San Joaquin River hydrologic region vulnerable to warming and drying conditions.
- 💧 Tulare Lake hydrologic region agriculture vulnerable to all but the wettest futures
- 💧 Groundwater conditions vulnerable to similar conditions





# Increased Agriculture and Urban Water Use Efficiency Improves Outcomes, Even in Most Challenging Futures



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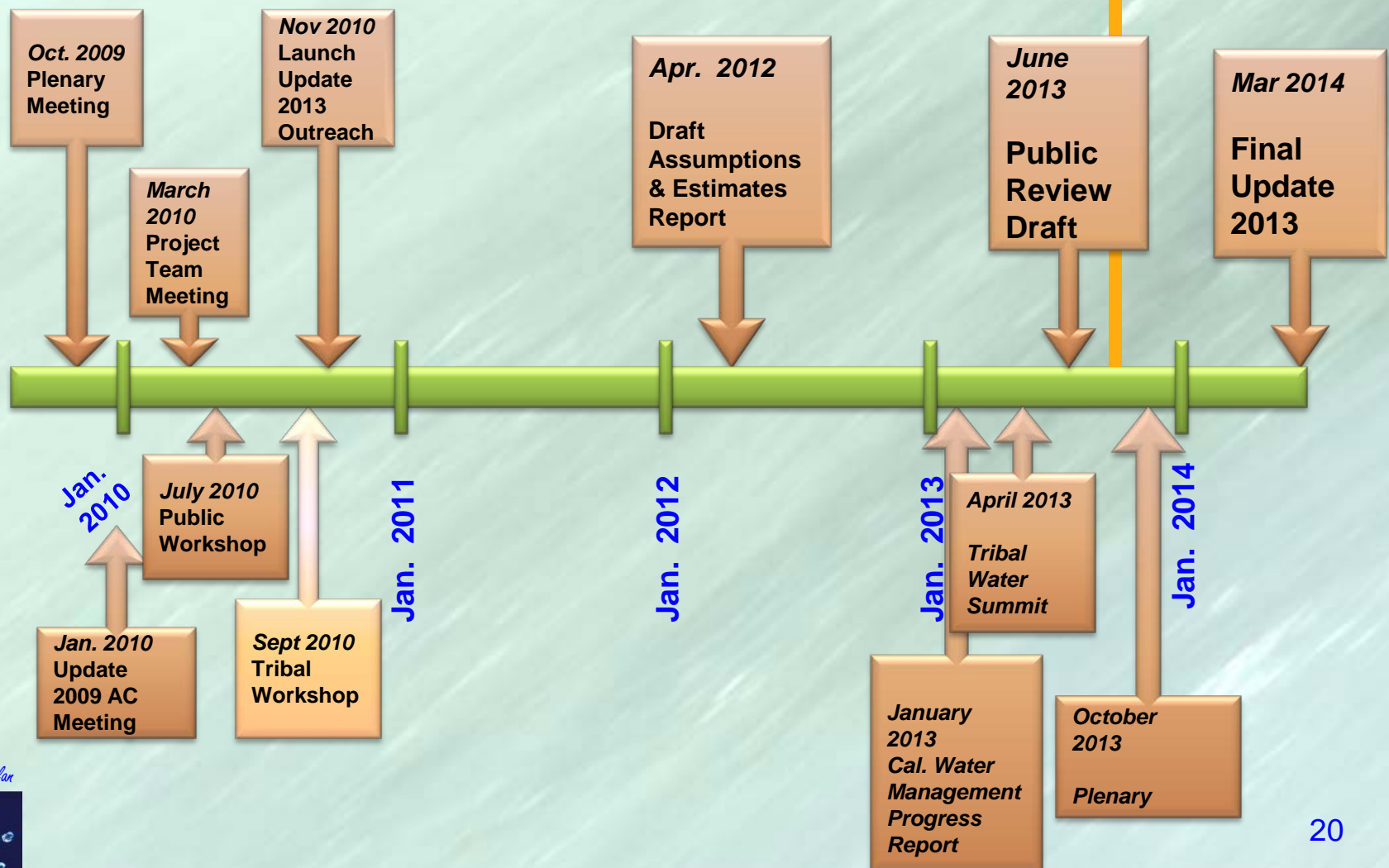
# Continuing Analysis Evaluates Response Packages

- 💧 Evaluates ability of alternative portfolios management strategies to add resilience to the system
- 💧 Compares performance of response packages under most stressing climate conditions
- 💧 Considers tradeoffs between robustness and cost



# Revised Update 2013 Scoping & Deliverables

We Are Here



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# Contact Information

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